REMARKS

Claims 1 and 22 have been amended to clarify the invention, and finds support at page 5, line 1 to page 6, line 16. No new matter has been entered.

Turning to the previous art rejections, and considering first the rejection of claims 1, 17, 18 and 22 under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Yamamoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,932,118) in view of Mori et al. (JP Patent No. 7-266,064), claims 1 and 22 have been amended to include the feature that "the projected light has a beam size in the order of micrometers." Nowhere does Yamamoto et al. or Mori et al. teach the claimed combination of these features. The laser beam of Yamamoto et al. has an area of 12 mm x 20 mm (col. 8, lines 15-16 and lines 30-35). This is clearly not in the order of micrometers. Thus, Yamamoto et al. cannot render obvious claims 1 and 22. Furthermore, Mori et al. does not supply the missing teaching. Mori et al. teaches a laser beam that is 10 mm x 10 mm (paragraph [0004], lines 3-4). Thus, no combination of Yamamoto et al. and Mori et al. can achieve or render obvious claims 1, 7, 18 and 22.

Turning to the rejection of claims 19, 20 and 21 under 35 USC §103 as obvious over Yamamoto et al. in view of Mori et al. as applied to claim 17 above, in further view of Suzuki (JP Patent No. 6-267,826), the deficiencies of Yamamoto et al. and Mori et al. have been discussed above. Suzuki does not supply the missing teaching to achieve or render obvious dependent claims 19, 20 and 21, since Suzuki also fails to teach a projected light having a beam size in the order of micrometers. Thus, no combination of Yamamoto et al., Mori et al. and Suzuki can achieve or render obvious claims 19, 20 and 21.

Having dealt with all the objections raised by the Examiner, it is believed the Application now is in order for allowance.

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Serial No. 09/612,551
Docket No. NEC WNZ-2212
Amendment G with Request for Continued Examination

A credit card authorization Form PTO-2038 in payment of the RCE fee in the amount of \$770.00 accompanies this Amendment. In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on _________, 2004 at Tucson, Arizona.

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